No. 49

of 1886

Poll. G.O. on Governor's tour minute

22-3-86 No 296 Poli.

CONFIDENTIAL.

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G.O., 12th March 1886, No. 530.

MARCH.

His Excellency the Governor's Minute.

Communicating to the Departments of the Secretariat, for such action as may be necessary, copies of — on his recent tour to the Tanjore and South Arcot Districts.

22/3/86 G.O. 296 Mis

Recorded

C.S. for C.S.

CONFIDENTIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

MINUTE by His Excellency the Governor, dated 9th February 1886.

Leaving Madras on the morning of February 1st, I passed rapidly through Chingleput and South Arcot to Shiyáli, where an Address, which, with my reply, will be found in the Appendix, was presented to me.

2. From Shiyáli, I proceeded to Vellum and went on next day to Pudukóta, where I remained till the 4th.

3. It would seem that no Governor ever before visited that little State, and I think my going thither gave much satisfaction.

4. The condition of the roads and tanks near the town, the cleanliness of the streets, and the perfect good order of the population do much credit alike to the Ruler and to the Sirkele, Sashia Shastri.

5. I gave away the prizes at the principal boys' school and visited also the girls' school, receiving at the former an Address, which is printed in the Appendix, and to which I replied by a few words of congratulation.

6. Mr. Farmer, who is at present charged with the duty of looking after Pudukóta affairs, met me at Tanjore, and returned with me to that place.

7. I declined to receive any addresses there, having visited the town in 1882; and I of course avoided discussing the questions relating to remissions, which are now before Government. On the morning of the 5th, the Consort of the late Princess visited me, and I understand that he is desirous of bringing some matter before Government, but no business was entered upon at this interview.

8. From Tanjore, I passed to Negapatam, where an Address was presented to me, which, with my reply, will be found in the Appendix. I should like the Secretary of the Public Works Department to speak to me about the Boat Basin referred to in the Address.

9. I to-day verbally reported to my honorable colleagues the result of my inspection of the buildings of St. Joseph's College.

10. From Negapatam, I went, through the night, to Tranquebar in fulfilment of a very old promise, and examined the buildings to which the inhabitants wished to call my attention. Their ideas concerning the improvements which they desired were set forth in an Address, which, with my reply, is printed in the Appendix. The Lutheran Missionaries likewise presented an Address in their curious Church, which I acknowledged in a few friendly words, specially commending them for promoting the industrial training of the people.

11. Tranquebar is really an extremely pretty place. The picturesque Dansborg might conceivably be used for something, and the Court is an excellent building. I wish we could see our way to bring back a little prosperity to an interesting spot.

12. From Tranquebar, I went to Máyavaram, where an Address was presented, which will be found in the Appendix. I explained in my reply that we should require a much longer experience of the Local Self-government Acts than we yet have, before we could discuss amendments which might be agreeable to this or that section of the community, and explained to my visitors that it was not any want of good will, but the extreme complexity of the subject, which made dealing with the management of their religious endowments a matter of such great difficulty.

13. From Máyavaram, I passed to Chidambaram, which is a really magnificent temple, and a credit to the Presidency. Some of the buildings are being restored at great expense, though in very questionable taste.

14. From Chidambaram I went to Cuddalore, which I had not visited since the terrific inundations of 1884. The havoc done is truly frightful, but I could not, with the prospect of further reductions of expenditure before us, encourage the Collector to attempt anything but makeshift expedients to serve the turn of the grand bridges which were swept away.

15. From Cuddalore I returned on the 8th to Madras.

M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Order—dated 12th March 1886, No. 530, Public.

Communicated to the Departments of the Secretariat for such action as may be necessary.

(True Extract.)

W. WILSON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
,, Military ,,
,, Public Works ,,
,, Judicial ,,
,, Financial ,,
,, Political ,,

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

APPENDIX.

Address of the Mirasadars and Inhabitants of Shiyáli taluk, Tanjore district.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the mirasadars and loyal subjects of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, of Shiyáli taluk, Tanjore district, beg most respectfully to offer our cordial welcome to your Excellency on the occasion of this your Excellency's visit to this district.

2. That your memorialists beg to submit that Shiyáli taluk is a low-lying tract, irrigated mainly by the drainage channels of adjoining taluks; that, in consequence, cultivation suffers in its early and later stages for want of a proper supply of water.

3. That in view to improve the means of irrigation, Mr. (and now the Hon'ble) Webster, when Collector of Tanjore, conceived a scheme which, however, your Excellency's memorialists regret to observe, has not been realised, to their great detriment, for reasons not known.

4. That your memorialists further beg to submit that this taluk peculiarly suffers from defective drainage,—a fact well within the knowledge of the successive Collectors of the district.

5. That the mirasadars of this taluk, once in decent circumstances, have, from the causes above mentioned, become, in a great majority of cases, irretrievably involved in debts.

6. That your memorialists beg respectfully to submit that your Excellency would be pleased to take these grievances into your favorable consideration and order remedial measures to be adopted at an early date.

7. That your Excellency's memorialists beg leave to avail themselves of this opportunity to bring to your Excellency's notice the memorial that we, in common with our fellow-sufferers in this district, submitted, through the Tanjore People's Association, on the subject of remission in the disastrous year of 1885, and entreat that your Excellency's Government would be pleased to accord to us that justice which the circumstances of the case imperatively call for.

8. In conclusion, your memorialists have great pleasure to submit that one of their townsmen, Mr. Krishnasawmy Mudaliyar, has introduced improved modes of cultivation into this taluk; that, with a view to secure the services of a cheaper agency to extend the operations of these improved methods of agriculture, to bring practical instruction within the easy reach of other mirasadars, and to conduct experiments, &c., your memorialists beg that your Excellency's Government would graciously be pleased to depute, for a time, an able agriculturist, who has had practical training, to work on the farm of Mr. Krishnasawmy Mudaliyar, who, we are glad to observe, is prepared to offer sufficient inducements to those that may desire to be trained on his farm.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I am quite aware of the circumstances of your taluk, and they have long engaged the attention of our Irrigation Engineers. These gentlemen lead me to hope that certain works which are now in progress will materially improve your position, and, in connection with other works, which are suggested and may be carried into effect, remove any ground of complaint which you may have.

You will permit me meantime to doubt whether the indebtedness of the mirasadars has much to do with the state of your irrigation and drainage.

I am particularly glad to have made to-day the acquaintance of Mr. Krishnasawmy Mudaliyar, with whose name and good work I have long been familiar. I only wish we had two or three such men in every taluk in the Madras Presidency. Till that is the case, our colleges and schools will be meeting but imperfectly the wants of Southern India.

Address of the People of Pudukóta.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the people of Pudukóta and the loyal subjects of His Highness, most humbly beg leave to approach and convey to your Excellency the unbounded joy which we feel at your Excellency's visit to this place. We heartily welcome your Excellency as the first Governor and representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen-Empress, that has condescended to pay us a visit.

It need hardly be said that this State, small indeed in extent and population, ranks foremost in entire devotion to the British cause and unswerving loyalty to the British Crown. "Some one hundred and thirty years ago," to use the words of our Sovereign, "the town of Trichinopoly

and its vicinity resounded to the din of war caused by the strife between the two mighty nations of Europe, contending for supremacy on the fall of Chunda Sahib." It was then that one of the ancestors of our Ruler stepped in and rendered most substantial services to the Honorable Company with counsel, men, and provisions at all times when they were most needed, though he knew well that, by so doing, he would make numberless enemies and seriously endanger his own safety. This timely help, we are proud to say, led to the establishment of the British power in Southern India, and to the commencement of a firm alliance between this State and the Honorable Company, which was continued and strengthened by similar services rendered by his successors. Such an unfailing attachment and firm loyalty, we most humbly beg to submit, are almost unparallelled in the annals of Indian history. It is for this reason, we believe, that the British Government have been treating, and, we hope, will ever continue to treat, our Sovereign with such paternal affection as well becomes the nobleness of the British name. To crown all, your Excellency was pleased to honor this place with a visit, the first of the kind, which will ever be regarded as an important event in the history of Pudukóta.

Keenly alive to the nature of the relations between his illustrious ancestors and the Honorable Company, and the honors thereby won by them, and with a clear sense of the sacred responsibilities of a Ruler, our Raja has been always striving to promote the welfare of his subjects in all possible ways. Accordingly, under the auspices of the Madras Government, His Highness selected in 1878 an able adviser in the person of our present much-honored Dewan, the Hon'ble A. Sashia Shastrial, C.S.I.

How far His Highness' expectations have been answered may be seen in the various reforms and improvements in all the departments of the State, which your Excellency may have already noted, and in the general content and happiness of the people, which we, as representatives, beg leave to express on this occasion. Further, we are aware that several other reforms only await their time and a more prosperous condition of the finances. It is certainly our singular fortune that His Highness has secured the services of such a Minister; and we are diffident whether the State could in future boast of an administrator who could at least work the machinery that he has set on foot.

Though we are not under the direct rule of your Excellency, we have tasted the fruits of your Excellency's administration, of which the various educational facilities afforded by your Excellency's Government, such as, the affiliation of the local college to the Madras University, the recognition of Pudukóta as a centre for Middle School, Matriculation and F.A. Examinations, and extension of the concession in regard to the Revenue Higher Test to Matriculates in the service of this State, are the most important.

Address of the Municipal Council of Negapatam.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the Municipal Council of Negapatam, beg respectfully to welcome your Excellency on this your first visit to our town. We thank your Excellency for the share your Government has had in conferring on us the powers of self-government; and we beg to assure your Excellency that we have a lively sense, alike of the responsibilities and the privileges thus accorded to us.

2. Our town presents few attractions to the visitor, except in those historical associations with which your Excellency is doubtless familiar; but we believe there are certain points in which it may be admitted to have a more than local importance among the towns of Southern India. As the chief sea-port of the busy districts of Trichinopoly and Tanjore, and the principal ocean-terminus of the South Indian Railway; as the main emporium of the rapidly-developing trade between India and the Straits Settlements, and the highway of emigration to the Straits and Burma; and, finally, as the rendezvous for the multitudes of pilgrims, who, from all parts of India, flock to the Nagore Durga on the occasion of its annual festival and to the Roman Catholic shrine at Velangani, your Excellency will recognise in our town an importance not to be measured by its own wealth or population alone, but rather by the extent of the commerce, enterprise, and religious interest, of which it is the centre.

3. With a grave sense of the position which Negapatam thus holds as affecting the well-being of the wide region from which its traffic and its visitors are drawn, we have endeavoured to discharge the duties laid upon us as a Municipal Council; and we believe that those who have had opportunity to judge will be able to inform your Excellency that, in some directions, our efforts have not been wholly unsuccessful. Those who can compare the present state of our town with its condition in the days before it was constituted a Municipality, will readily admit that, in the departments of education, both male and female, conservancy, roads, lighting, &c., a great advance has been made; while the existence of a Municipal Council has developed in the people at large a knowledge of the principles and appreciation of the benefits of self-government, and an interest in the well-being and good management of the town.

4. But this improvement in the state of the town and the growing familiarity of its inhabitants with the advantages of Municipal administration, have made them the more impatient for further advance in the same direction; and, in the view of the Council itself, the work that still remains to be done before the condition of this Municipality can be deemed satisfactory, dwarfs

into insignificance the results already achieved. Two measures especially have been long urgently needed, and would have been dealt with by us, had not their execution been attended with difficulties which we felt ourselves unable to overcome. We refer to the provision of systems of drainage and water-supply. It is notorious, being, indeed, obvious to every passer-by, that not only are there regular systems of drainage and water-supply to be found in our town, but that the present makeshift arrangements, by their lamentable inefficiency, are a positive source of danger to the public health. Every public officer who inspects the town officially confirms this representation; and more than once have outbreaks of cholera in various parts of the country been thought to have originated in this town and its neighbourhood. This conjecture, though, we believe, very imperfectly confirmed, cannot be considered wholly improbable, when it is remembered that a town which, as we have pointed out above, is a highway for traffic and travel, has so much in its condition to render disease possible.

5. On account of the magnitude of these difficulties, and the wide interest which demands a speedy and effectual settlement of them, the Council respectfully urge that, as a first step toward grappling with them, it is of the utmost importance that a careful inquiry should be made into the matter; and they humbly beg your Excellency to depute an officer for the purpose of making an exhaustive report upon the present state of affairs, and of suggesting practicable schemes for the water-supply and drainage of this town.

6. The Council are aware that the cost of the introduction of any efficient system of drainage and water-supply must be very heavy, amounting, possibly, to several lakhs of rupees. This sum will have to be raised by loans, the interest on which we cannot pretend to hope that the present Municipal income will ever be able to bear. The incidence of taxation in the town is already very heavy; and no means of meeting extra expenditure can be looked for, except from new sources of income.

7. In these circumstances, the Council are happy in being able to suggest, for your Excellency's consideration, a measure which will not only provide a new source of Municipal income, but will remedy a grievance affecting some of the most important interests of our town,—a measure which, on its own merits, we should have been inclined to urge, even if the considerations mentioned above had not made an enlargement of Municipal revenues imperative. This suggestion is, that the Port Fund, together with the responsibility for the maintenance and improvement of the Port, should be transferred to the Municipal Council. We submit that the Council is the natural guardian of the Port, the interests of which are so closely bound up with those of the town; while the fact that a majority of the Council consists of merchants, ship-owners and land-owners of the town and district, all of whom have a personal interest in the efficient management and improvement of the Port, affords a sufficient guarantee that its wants will receive every attention. Your Excellency will recognise also that the scientific and engineering talent upon this Council is such as to ensure our having the best advice and direction in all operations relating to the Port.

8. That the interests of the Port are now neither efficiently nor intelligently cared for,—that they are, in fact, neglected,—will be obvious from the most cursory inspection or inquiry. The state of the jetty, its hasty and ill-advised extension, the diversion of an important Municipal drain, in order to construct a boat basin, which, as soon as it was completed, had to be abandoned on account of its unsuitability in every respect, the purchase of a costly dredger which is a patent and acknowledged failure, the employment of an officer to superintend a dredger which cannot be worked: these and, if necessary, other instances may be enumerated to establish our assertion that the funds of the Port need to be entrusted to more efficient management; and, in view of this and of the special need which has been pointed out for new sources of Municipal income, we respectfully suggest that the control and administration of the funds of the Port shall be handed over to the Municipal Council.

9. The Council further submit that, as an additional source of income, the management of the Ferry within Municipal limits ought to be vested in the Municipality.

10. The Council do not pretend to think that these measures alone will enable them to meet the large outlay on drainage and water-supply, which is so urgently demanded in the interests of the town itself, and of the wide area which its condition may affect. For further guidance in a matter of so great difficulty, they respectfully look to your Excellency's Government, when it shall have received the report of that official inquiry which the Council now most earnestly request.

11. Knowing that your Excellency's stay in this place is unfortunately to be but short, we have ventured to draw attention to only the two most important requirements of this Municipality, and we are sure that they will receive your Excellency's careful consideration. As many other places have profited by the advice and assistance which have resulted from your Excellency's personal attention and interest, we confidently hope that our town also may date the inception of great and lasting improvements from your Excellency's present visit.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I am glad to come here and to have thus an opportunity of seeing for myself and hearing from you on the spot what is wanted for the improvement of this town.

You suggest, I observe, that we should send down an engineer to examine the locality with special reference to drainage and water-supply. Well, I will consult our engineering authorities about that; but it would make the granting of your request much easier, if you could give me some idea what amount of money you could devote to this most important purpose. To bring good water and give efficient drainage to a place situated like Negapatam would be, indeed, a great undertaking. The circumstances of Madras are somewhat similar, and what a tremendous business drainage and water-supply have been there,—a business which is too far from finished.

As for annexing a portion of the Port Fund and of the Ferry Fund, they are not mine to give; I could as soon take your property and hand it over to them.

You must think of some proposal more practicable than that, but if you can do so, you may depend upon our looking on your work with a friendly eye and doing anything to help that we can reasonably and properly be asked to do.

Address of the Inhabitants of Tranquebar.

May it please Your Excellency,

Welcome.—We, the inhabitants of Tranquebar and its suburbs, most cordially welcome your Excellency to our shores and express our feelings of joy and gratitude for the kind favor of a personal visit to our old historic town, in spite of many obstacles. We embrace this opportunity to convey, through your Excellency, our unswerving loyalty and devotion to Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Empress of India, for the manifold blessings that our land enjoys under the just and benign British Government.

2. *Important Buildings, &c.*—We beg your Excellency most submissively to make a personal inspection of some parts of the town, such as the Dansborg castle, with its upper buildings, the Court-house, the godowns on the beach, the salt factory, the principal European streets, the Ziegenbalg and Zion churches, the adjoining town of Poreyar, &c. A sight of these interesting spots, we hope, will convey to your Excellency a better idea of the resources and capacities of the town and of its former greatness and present desolation than any written representation could do; and it may also suggest to your Excellency some measure for utilising the numerous public and private buildings that have of late fallen into decay.

3. *Railway.*—We beg permission to mention a few of our wants and grievances in the sanguine hope of finding some relief at your Excellency's hands. Foremost of our wants is a branch railway between Tranquebar and Máyavaram. Owing to the want of railway communication and of good metalled roads, our town has gradually lost its commercial and administrative importance, in spite of its excellent roadstead, salubrious climate, healthy situation, salt manufacture, fish-curing industry, and a body of rich mirasadars and merchants. This want has led to the withdrawal of official patronage and the removal of all important public offices from the station. The only means for the restoration of the town and its increase in wealth, trade, population, &c., is the construction of the line. We, therefore, offer to raise the whole capital among the people of the district on the condition of the District Board guarantee of 4 per cent. interest and half the profits. The line will be sufficiently remunerative. For the weekly earnings of the South Indian Railway between the stations between Máyavaram and Tanjore are about Rs. 100 per mile. As the Tranquebar line runs through an equally fertile region and terminates in a port with a smooth sea, a salt factory, and fisheries, and as the line opens a short and direct route for the conveyance of grain and other goods between a seaport and many important inland towns, especially during times of famine, the line may reasonably be expected to earn Rs. 90,000 a year. The net profit of Rs. 16,000 derived from the line and an annual grant of Rs. 20,000 from the Railway Guarantee Fund of the district will, at the outset, suffice to pay the interest to the shareholders. It is thus clear that our line will absorb only a fifth of the available resources of the Railway Guarantee Fund, which has a yearly income of nearly a lakh of rupees. The additional taxation of 3 pies in the rupee was imposed with the express object and promise of constructing the Tranquebar line and other local railways in the district (*vide* G.O., Financial Department, dated 31st July 1878, No. 1331; and G.O., Financial Department, dated 31st June 1880, No. 1201). Relying on that promise we now claim a guarantee from the District Board. Without this guarantee it is utterly impracticable to undertake the construction at our own cost. For your Excellency is well aware that in no part of the country the spirit of local enterprise is so far developed as to undertake measures of public utility independent of Government co-operation. The line will also be advantageous. Raising the capital in the local market will encourage local enterprise and confine the profits to the district. The line will enhance the value of lands and houses all along its course, and will render this town once more prosperous and flourishing. The present income of the Railway Guarantee Fund will suffice to raise the capital necessary for the simultaneous construction of the Tranquebar line and the Muttupet-Tiruválúr line for the benefit

of the Northern and the Southern taluks respectively. The Tiruválúr-Máyavaram section may safely be postponed without affecting in any way the interests of the district. We, therefore, humbly pray that the long-deferred execution of this railway work, so indispensable for the revival of our station, may obtain the immediate sanction of your Excellency.

4. *Courts.*—This large, populous and rich district is noted for litigation. It has been supplying full work to two District Judges. The North Tanjore District Court was not abolished for want of accommodation, work, or income. A fine Court-house, worth 75,000 rupees, is available here. The net revenue to Government from the North Tanjore District Court was 77,000 rupees in 1882. The Judge had to dispose of 60 criminal cases and 300 appeals and original suits on an average in a year. Tranquebar was once the seat of four Courts at the same time. The judicial work of the district may overtask the energies of one District Judge. The inspection of three Sub-Courts and eleven District Munsif Courts will be a heavy item in his work. To obtain justice even in a petty case, we have to travel over 18 miles of bad road thrice at least. Economy should be sacrificed for the public good. We, therefore, beg your Excellency to re-establish the Sub-Court or any other judicial Court at Tranquebar.

5. *Military Depôt.*—Our town has long been considered the sanitarium of the district. The Dansborg castle is a strong ancient citadel facing the sea. We beg to suggest that it may be used as a military depôt for pensioned and invalid soldiers.

6. *Branch Dispensary.*—There are several large Government buildings lying unoccupied here. In one of these, the Fort branch dispensary used to be located. But a few months ago, it was removed to a small room for which an annual rent of 36 rupees is paid. This course is said to have been adopted on the ground that a Local Fund dispensary cannot be accommodated in a Government building. But we submit that the interests of the District Board and those of Government are not antagonistic to each other, their common object being the promotion of public good. By removing the said branch dispensary to its former site, a saving may be effected and the Government building may thus be prevented from going to ruin. This small saving may be applied to the lighting of the town, which has been suspended for want of funds.

7. *Impending danger.*—Our town still retains some of its importance through the benevolent exertions of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission Society, who carry on a very useful work under several European agents by means of a printing press, an industrial school, a training institution, and a second-grade college. If no measures for the improvement of the town be adopted by Government, there is every probability of the removal of the Mission head-quarters from this station, which, we fear, will complete its ruin and desolation.

8. *Grant Duff Prize.*—These are some of our wants and grievances, which we submit for your Excellency's generous consideration. We beg to tender our warmest thanks to your Excellency for the patient hearing, which has been graciously accorded to us. We also thank your Excellency once more for the honor done to our town by your Excellency's condescension to ascertain our wants and wishes by personal inspection and local inquiry. We beg leave to commemorate your Excellency's visit to Tranquebar by founding a prize in your Excellency's name to be awarded to the Tranquebar candidate who passes highest in the Middle School Examination, taking up for his optional subject any of the Industrial Branches.

We earnestly hope that the advent of your Excellency will accelerate the dawn of a new era of prosperity upon our beloved town.

Fervently praying that the Fountain of all good may shower his choicest blessings upon your Excellency, we beg, &c.

His Excellency's Reply.

Gentlemen,—I am very grateful to you for having so strenuously insisted upon my coming here, for I quite admit that you were right when you said that to understand the position in which you are placed, it was necessary to see Tranquebar with my own eyes.

When, however, I come to consider the remedies you propose, I see many difficulties. First, as to your railway. You cannot surely expect me in these days of self-government to order the District Board to guarantee a line, which, in its opinion, will not pay. I allow that, as you spoke, my feelings were touched, and I desired that the District Board might help you. Man is naturally benevolent. *A*, it has been truly observed, never sees *B* in distress, without wishing *C* to relieve him; but I am afraid that it is not to *A*, the Government, but to *C*, the District Board, that your eloquent representations should be addressed.

Secondly, as to your Court-house. It is an admirable Court-house, and I wish some one could suggest a good use for it; but I am bound to tell you that Mr. Davies mentioned to me the other day at Tanjore the curious fact that the abolition of this Court had not materially increased business in his Court. Does not that look a little as if the existence of a Court here had done something to foster unnecessary litigation?

I will inquire as to the matters mentioned in your fifth and sixth paragraphs, and I congratulate you on the wisdom shown in the object of the prize which you propose to connect with my name. It is unquestionably the industrial branches of education that most require fostering in this Presidency.

I wish I could, after the brief inspection of this morning, make you some more hopeful suggestions; but I shall certainly lay the state of Tranquebar before my colleagues, and scan carefully any projects that are devised for helping the town.

Address of the German Missionaries of the Leipzig Lutheran Mission, Tranquebar.

May it please Your Excellency,—We, the undersigned Missionaries of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission at Tranquebar, beg leave to bid your Excellency our hearty welcome on the occasion of your visit to this venerable birth-place of the Protestant Missions in India. It was here that the first Protestant Missionaries Ziegenbalg and Plutchaw set their foot on the shores of India, 9th July 1706, under the auspices of Frederick IV, King of Denmark. Here was the first Protestant Mission church built in 1718, in which we have the honor of addressing your Excellency on this occasion. Here were the first Protestant schools, printing press, paper mill, and other industries established. It was the Tranquebar Missionaries that founded the Protestant Missions at Madras, Cuddalore, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Tinnevelly, and Calcutta. Tranquebar is still the head-quarters of the Mission, and has an institution for training teachers, catechists, and native pastors, an English high school, which has lately been raised to the rank of a college, a printing office, and an industrial establishment, where various handicrafts are taught. With the Mission are connected 20 stations, 25 European Missionaries, 11 native pastors, 7 candidates for the ministry, 181 other Mission agents and 13,589 native Christians.

We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to your Excellency for the security, peace, and protection which we have enjoyed under the Government of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, and venture to express the hope that the glorious days of this beloved Mission station and of this once-flourishing, but now declining, town may not be all a thing of the past, but that the day of your Excellency's visit may, under God's blessing, be ever remembered in the annals of Tranquebar as a day of returning prosperity and renewed blessings.

Address of the Inhabitants and Municipal Councillors of the Town of Máyavaram.

May it please Your Excellency,—With feelings of deep loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, we, the inhabitants and Municipal Councillors of the Town of Máyavaram, beg to offer a cordial welcome to your Excellency, the representative of Her Majesty in this Presidency.

2. This is the second time we have the like honor of personally paying our respects to the Ruler of this Presidency. Since 1871, the year in which Lord Napier visited this town, British India has made rapid strides in her moral and political progress. The wise and noble educational policy of the British Government in India has achieved the most gratifying and splendid result of imbuing us with a deep sense of attachment to the British sway and of our duties as Her Majesty's loyal subjects.

3. Of the numerous benefits we are enjoying under Her Majesty's benign rule, the scheme of local self-government stands among the foremost. We are specially grateful to your Excellency for the sympathetic response your Excellency has made to the further development given to the working of that scheme; and we beg that early opportunity be taken to amend some of the provisions in the present Local Self-government Acts, which require modification.

4. We have no wish to take your Excellency's time with a long list of grievances in an address of welcome. But this district, and especially this part, is studded with numerous temples richly endowed, of which some are under the management of committees constituted under Act XX of 1863 and some under Mutts. Convinced that the utterly unworkable and defective character of the said Act has not been able to secure the proper and efficient management of these temples, your Excellency was pleased to appoint, in the beginning of 1884, a committee to consider the subject and draft a suitable Bill. It is now nearly two years, and it does not appear that the committee has submitted their report and the Bill. As this is a matter of great importance to us, we beg that your Excellency will be pleased to have the labors of the committee brought to a close, in view to give the public sufficient time to discuss their proposals and the Bill being passed into law at an early date.

5. Again, begging to offer our most heartfelt welcome to your Excellency, and with feelings of deep loyalty and attachment to the British throne, we beg, &c.